

June 7, 2005

**MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR
MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance City Council convened in an adjourned regular session at 6:02 p.m. on Tuesday, June 7, 2005 in City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Lieu, Mauno McIntyre, Nowatka, Scotto, Witkowsky and Mayor Walker.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager Jackson, City Attorney Fellows
City Clerk Herbers, and other staff representatives.

2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Mauno.

Councilmember Witkowsky gave the non-sectarian invocation for the meeting.

3. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING/WAIVE FURTHER READING

MOTION: Councilmember Mauno moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lieu, and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilmember Mauno moved that after the City Clerk has read aloud the number and title to any resolution or ordinance on the meeting agenda, the further reading thereof shall be waived, reserving and guaranteeing to each Councilmember the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lieu and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

4. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS

None. City Manager Jackson announced there was supplemental material available for items 10A, 11B, and 12A.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

**7A. NARRATIVE/FINANCIAL REPORTS RE FY 2003-04 NON-PROFIT SOCIAL
SERVICE AGENCY GRANT RECIPIENTS**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Community Services Commission** and the **Community Services Director** that City Council accept and file the Narrative and Financial Reports of completed projects for the 2003-2004 Fiscal Year Non-Profit Social Services Agency Grant recipients.

7B. REVENUE SHARING AGREEMENT WITH SUPERKIDS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Community Services Director** that City Council approve a two year agreement with SuperKids to provide youth gymnastic classes, for an amount not to exceed \$121,065. Expenditure will be fully reimbursed by class fees.

7C. REVENUE AGREEMENT WITH FAMILY FUN TIME PARENT CHILD PROGRAMS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Community Services Director** that City Council approve a two year agreement with Family Fun Time Parent Child Programs to provide child development classes at Greenwood Park, for an amount not to exceed \$140,070. Expenditure will be fully reimbursed by class fees.

7D. CONTRACT WITH STARLIGHT PRODUCTIONS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Community Services Director** that City Council approve an agreement with Starlight Productions to provide youth classes in drama, dance, and vocal training for the stage, direct and produce three youth theater productions, and conduct a youth drama camp at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center, for an amount not to exceed \$84,288.

7E. REVENUE SHARING AGREEMENT WITH DORENE COLES YOGA STUDIO

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Community Services Director** that City Council approve a two year agreement with Dorene Coles Yoga Studio to provide adult Yoga classes at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center, for an amount not to exceed \$80,500. Expenditure will be fully reimbursed by class fees.

7F. PURCHASE ORDER FOR FIREFIGHTER PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Fire Chief** that City Council authorize a change order to the existing purchase order with L. N. Curtis & Sons, Oakland, CA in the amount not to exceed \$16,908.66 for the sole-source purchase of Globe GX Millenia turnout jackets and trousers. This change order will increase the total purchase order amount to \$46,946.95.

7G. PURCHASE ORDER RE DUMP TRUCKS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **General Services Director** that City Council authorize the award of a purchase order to Raceway Ford of Riverside, CA (B2005-24) in the amount of \$57,438.97 including sales tax and applicable tire fees, to furnish two (2) 2006 Ford F350 XL Cab and Chassis with attached One-Ton Dump Truck Bodies.

7H. CONTRACT FOR GRAFFITI REMOVAL SERVICES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **General Services Director** that City Council authorize a contract with Graffiti Protective Coatings, Inc., for Fiscal Year 2005-2006 for graffiti removal services in the City of Torrance at a cost not to exceed \$220,000 with annual options to extend the contract up to 5 years.

7I. PURCHASE ORDER RE TOYOTA SEDANS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **General Services Director** that City Council authorize the award of a purchase order to South Bay Toyota of Gardena, CA (B2005-20) in the amount of \$81,847.62 including sales tax, to furnish three (3) 2005 Toyota Avalon XL 4-Door Sedans.

7J. CONTRACT WITH CITY OF INGLEWOOD RE RADIO NETWORK CONTROLLER

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Chief of Police** that City Council approve a five-year contract with the City of Inglewood to continue to lease space on its Radio Network Controller, and authorize payment for contract years 2003 and 2004 in the amount of \$42,000 per year, for a total initial expenditure of \$84,000.

7K. CONTRACT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH GRACE BUILDING MAINTENANCE COMPANY

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Acting Transit Director** that City Council authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk attest to a one-year contract services agreement with Grace Building Maintenance Company, Incorporated to clean transit buses at a cost not to exceed \$58,656. (B2005-28)

7L. CONTRACT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH AT SYSTEMS WEST, INC.

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Acting Transit Director** and the **City Treasurer** that City Council approve and authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk attest to a two-year contract services agreement with AT Systems West Incorporated for the following services (RFP B2005-29):

- 1) Processing and bank deposit of Transit System Revenue for a cost not to exceed \$50,000 in Fiscal Year 2005-2006 and \$50,000 in Fiscal Year 2006-2007; and
- 2) Daily deposit pickup at the City Treasurer's Office and scheduled pickup at the Transit Department for a cost not to exceed \$4,000 in Fiscal Year 2005-2006 and \$4,000 in Fiscal Year 2006-2007.

MOTION: Councilmember Witkowsky moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 7A through 7L. the motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

10. PUBLIC SAFETY

10A. ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAM FOR TORRANCE BUSINESSES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Fire Chief** that City Council approve an energy conservation program for distribution of no cost replacement exit signs for businesses funded by Southern California Edison and administered by the Fire Department.

Assistant Fire Marshal Gebel briefly described the proposed conservation program, which would provide energy efficient exit signs to local businesses at no cost.

MOTION: Councilmember Lieu moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McIntyre and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

11. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

11A. PARS BENEFIT FOR TPSA, ENGINEERS AND FISCAL EMPLOYEE GROUPS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **City Manager** that City Council receive the report and schedule formal approval of the PARS supplemental retirement benefit for the June 21, 2005 City Council meeting.

MOTION: Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowski and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

11B. CITY OF TORRANCE LIGHTING DISTRICT NO. 99-1, PROCEEDINGS TO LEVY ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS FOR FY2005-2006

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Community Development Director** that City Council:

- 1) Adopt a Resolution initiating proceedings to levy assessments within the City of Torrance Lighting District No. 99-1 for Fiscal Year 2005-2006;
- 2) Adopt a Resolution approving the Fiscal Year 2005-2006 Engineer's Report for the City of Torrance Lighting District No. 99-1; and,
- 3) Adopt a Resolution of Intention to levy assessments within the City of Torrance Lighting District No. 99-1 for Fiscal Year 2005-2006.

Transportation Planning Manager Semaan noted supplemental material available at the meeting consisting of a corrected resolution setting forth June 21, 2005 as the public hearing date on the levy of assessments.

MOTION: Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowski and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-32

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE INITIATING PROCEEDINGS FOR THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF ASSESSMENTS WITHIN THE CITY OF TORRANCE LIGHTING DISTRICT NO. 99-1 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005-2006 PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF PART 2 OF DIVISION 15 OF THE STREETS AND HIGHWAYS CODE AND AS PROVIDED BY ARTICLE XIID OF THE CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

MOTION: Councilmember Scotto moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2005-32. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McIntyre and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-33

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING THE REPORT OF THE ENGINEER IN CONNECTION WITH THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF ASSESSMENTS WITHIN THE CITY OF TORRANCE LIGHTING DISTRICT 99-1 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005-2006 PURSUANT TO THE

PROVISION OF PART 2 OF DIVISION 15 OF THE STREETS AND HIGHWAYS CODE AND AS PROVIDED BY ARTICLE XIID OF THE CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

MOTION: Councilmember Scotto moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2005-33. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McIntyre and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-34

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO LEVY AND COLLECT ASSESSMENTS WITHIN THE CITY OF TORRANCE LIGHTING DISTRICT 99-1 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005-2006 PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF PART 2 OF DIVISION 15 OF THE STREETS AND HIGHWAYS CODE AND AS PROVIDED BY ARTICLE XIID OF THE CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION, APPOINTING CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF JUNE 21, 2005 AT 7:00 P.M. FOR A PUBLIC HEARING IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MOTION: Councilmember Scotto moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2005-34. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

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The Council met as the Redevelopment Agency from 6:13 p.m. to 6:50 p.m.

12. HEARINGS

12A. FIRST PUBLIC HEARING AND BUDGET WORKSHOP ON PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEARS 2005-07

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Finance Director** that City Council open the first public hearing and budget workshop on the City of Torrance proposed two-year Operating Budget for Fiscal Years 2005-2007.

Mayor Walker announced that this was the time and place for a public hearing on this matter. City Clerk Herbers confirmed that the hearing was properly advertised.

City Manager Jackson reported that the budget outlook has improved over the past month due to changes in funds available from the State of California and modifications to Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) rates, however, some reductions are required in order to maintain a balance budget. He noted that no cuts are proposed to public safety.

With the aid of slides, Finance Director Tsao provided an overview of the proposed Operating Budget for FY 2005-2007. He reported that the budget requires constrained reductions, allows for specific enhancements in safety services, and provides resources for wage and benefit adjustments. He noted that the General Fund deficit of \$868,400 is substantially less than the \$2.3 million deficit projected in June of 2004 due to several factors, the most significant of which is the Governor's proposal for the early repayment of \$1.2 million in Vehicle License Fees (VLF). He explained that the legislature may not approve the Governor's proposal, therefore a contingency budget has been drafted, which addresses this possibility. He noted that a second public hearing on the budget will be held on June 14, with formal adoption scheduled for June 21.

Councilmember Witkowsky requested information on the following items: the cost of providing police officers at Del Amo Mall and the portion of the cost being paid by the mall; the cost of adding an animal control officer; and the rationale for outsourcing sidewalk repairs.

Mayor Walker invited comments from the audience.

Joyce Jimenez, treasurer of the Engineers Association, stated that the organization had not had an opportunity to fully analyze the budget proposal, therefore, they intend to outline their concerns and offer alternate solutions at the next budget workshop, while continuing to work with management over the next week. She commented on the increasing demands on Community Development Department staff due to the General Plan Update and the citywide traffic study currently underway and the implementation of new programs, such as the historic preservation program, which are in addition to an already full schedule of day-to-day activities. She maintained that the proposed staffing changes would be detrimental to the overall operations of the Community Development Department and have the potential to compromise the completion of the work underway, as well as the day-to-day operation of the department. She asked that no decision be made on this matter until the organization has an opportunity to discuss their concerns with the City.

Martin Serna, representing Torrance Fire Fighters Association, voiced objections to the proposal to reduce the Hazardous Materials Team from nine members to five, stating that the proposed reduction would reduce the level of public safety without providing any cost savings to the City. He reported that TFFA agrees that an additional paramedic unit is needed, but believes it should be done the right way – by increasing the number of personnel on duty per shift from 49 to 51. He noted that the hazmat team generates revenue by performing hazardous material inspections and reducing the team to five members would result in 44% fewer inspections.

Jeannie Moorman, AFSCME, Local 1117, indicated that she had had very little time to review the proposed budget and suggested that employee groups be allowed to provide input on the budget prior to its formal presentation in the future. She expressed concerns about the following items: 1) The deletion of a revenue inspector in the Finance Department. She noted that at one time, the City had four revenue inspectors and this deletion would leave only one inspector to visit over 10,000 businesses to verify licensing information, which would undoubtedly result in the loss of revenue; 2) The deletion of a senior groundskeeper and a groundskeeper. She stated that this deletion would have a detrimental impact on the appearance and cleanliness of the civic center complex and City parks. 3) The deletion of a custodial supervisor. She suggested that it makes more sense to combine the building maintenance program with the air conditioning/heating/ electrical program and create a supervisor pool; 4) The elimination of three full-time bus operator positions. She proposed that the City eliminate three relief bus operator positions instead and transition the remaining relief operators to permanent bus operator positions; and 5) The elimination of sidewalk repair crews. She suggested that this could impact the safety of the public. She requested that severance packages be offered to employees affected by staffing reductions. She reported that a 2001 survey conducted by the South Bay Cities Council of Governments revealed that more than half of the classifications represented by AFSCME, Local 1117, were well below average in terms of salary and the membership also lags behind in health and retirement benefits. She stated that residents deserve top-of-the-line employees in all departments, not just police and fire, and urged the Council to take this into account when considering the budget.

Bill Byron, representing Torrance Professional and Supervisory Association, stated that he had not had enough time to fully review the budget but was concerned about the deletion of the custodial supervisor in the General Services Department.

James Henry, resident, requested proof that the City of Torrance was paying its fair share of assessments for street lighting.

As there were no more requests to speak, the public hearing was continued to the meeting of June 14, 2005.

MOTION: Councilmember Scotto moved to continue the hearing on the Operating Budget for FY 2005-2007 to the City Council meeting of June 14, 2005. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

16. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

16A. Councilmember Lieu congratulated Ray and Jennifer Frew of Green Hills Memorial Park where 5,000 people attended Memorial Day services in honor of those who have served and fallen in service to their country.

16B. Councilmember Lieu congratulated the Torrance Education Foundation and the Torrance Parents Organization for raising \$160,000 to retain the class size reduction in Torrance Unified School District. He also commended large donors Continental Development and WalMart.

16C. Councilmember Lieu commended Torrance Police Department for their work during a recent incident at the Marriott Hotel, which resulted in the arrest of eight suspects, and singled out police staff involved.

16D. At the request of Councilmember Lieu, Police Chief Herren recounted details of the incident at the Marriott Hotel.

16E. Councilmember Mauno, with the concurrence of Council, requested that staff look into the possibility of placing information about those whose names are on the Torrance Veterans Memorial - branch of service, where they gave their lives and other similar historical information - on the Torrance website.

16F. Councilmember McIntyre asked staff if there would be a ceremony to add Ricardo Crocker to the Veteran's Memorial. City Manager Jackson reported that the family will be contacted and the ceremony conducted according to their wishes.

16G. Councilmember McIntyre commended Madrona Marsh naturalist Tracy Drake for assisting a resident red tail hawk chick with a broken wing at the Florwood sump that required rescue on Sunday afternoon.

16H. Councilmember McIntyre noted that Borders offers a 15% discount on Mondays to seniors (over 55).

16I. Councilmember Nowatka stated that he was honored to attend a Court of Honor for Boy Scout Troop 242, Christ the King Lutheran Church, at which the following Eagle Scouts were installed: Mark Nitake, Brian Lanoye, Edward Ong, Rick Kyung Kim, Kevin Wang, and Justin Brennan Armijo. He noted that this troop has the distinction of installing 100 Eagle Scouts.

16J. Councilmember Nowatka stated that he was pleased, as a member the Torrance Education Foundation Board of Directors, to be present at the presentation of a check to the Torrance Board of Education on Monday evening and reported that the foundation is already gearing up to find ways to ensure that class size reductions are maintained next year.

16K. Councilmember Nowatka asked for concurrence of the City Council to make a formal presentation of a plaque from the West Basin Water District to the City Council.

16L. Councilmember Scotto reported that on Sunday he, along with Councilmember Nowatka and former Assemblyman George Nakano, attended the presentation of scholarships by Torrance Arts Foundation to high school students.

16M. Councilmember Witkowsky noted her attendance at a Torrance Fire Fighter Association luncheon honoring citizens for their heroic efforts in the community.

16N. Councilmember Witkowsky reported that she had represented the City Council at the 20th anniversary of the Torrance Certified Farmers Market earlier in the day. She invited the public to visit the market at Wilson Park on Tuesdays and Saturdays between 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

16O. City Manager Jackson commented on the successful open house at the city yard with over three times the previous number of attendees and commended the efforts of the many employees who made it happen.

16P. Linda Gottschall Sayed, West Torrance Homeowners Association commented on a recent disparaging e-mail referring to a councilmember sent from an otherwise unidentified sender at "Torrance Homeowners at yahoo.com" to many in the community. She expressed concern that it was also an attempt to disparage legitimate homeowner associations who had no connection with the e-mail and noted that legitimate homeowner associations disavowed any knowledge of the party who sent the e-mail.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:08 p.m., the Council recessed to closed session to confer with the City Manager and the City Attorney on agenda matters listed under 17A) Conference with Labor Negotiator, pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6.

The Council reconvened in Council Chambers at 8:12 p.m. No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

18. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:13 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, June 14, 2005 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Attest:

/s/ Dan Walker

Mayor of the City of Torrance

/s/ Sue Herbers

Sue Herbers, CMC
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on August 9, 2005